The Milk in the Cocoanut, It is not hard to explain the action of the War Department in scattering its commissions among the Sons of Somebodies.

It is politics. Alger is again a candidate for the Presidential nomination. Every appointment that he makes is an anchor to windward.

P. ACE IN VIEW.

NO NECESSITY FOR DOUBLING BEER TAX

Our Democratic Friends in the Sen-

Spain is caving in, She is willing to give up Cuba, but wants to retain Porto Rico and the Philippines. The Internal Revenue bill is held back on that account by the Democratic Senators. They are unwilling to give the Admin istration hundreds of millions when there is no necessity for it. Senator Jones, of Arkansas, on this subject, part of which we republished in our last issue.

No such speech could you hear from any Republican Senator. They all want the beer tax doubled. Senator White, of California, another member of the Finance Committee, the other day, made a sim ilar excellent speech in favor of letting the present tax stand. We have either letters or personal as surances from all the Democratic Senators of the Finance Committee that they will do everything to defeat this outrageous bill and ing. offersome amendment by which the rich corporations and trusts shall pay, at least a little, to help from Washington almost every the Government. But the Repub- day since April 23, when the first licans bitterly oppose taxing the call for troops was issued. Each rich It is said that no move by the army will be made into Cuba before the Revenue bill is passed. The Administration wants enormous amounts'of money on hand Hanna is the master of ceremonies. | sailing orders every day. He directs Congress and the Administration.

ged him in the interest of Democ. racy, to defeat that Republican attempt to increase the beer tax. He had already carefully watched the movement and a few days afterwards he called a Democratic beverage, and the caucus unanimously resolved to oppose the increase. The question became else. thereby a political party issue. That was bad for Western Republican Senators, such as Nelson, the Wisconsin and Illinois Senators, and for none more so than for Hanna, who had to go before the people of Ohio for re-election a few months later. The passage of the amendment would surely have defeated him. Had he voted against the beer tax increase the numerous prohibitionists in his State would have gone against him; on the other hand, had he voted for the tax increase, the Ohio beer interest and every friend of personal liberty, and the laboring classes, would have buried him. What was to be done? The Republican Senators of the Finance Committee, without allowing the amendment come to a vote, slyly withdrew it, and thus the Republican last year failed.

firm in their opposition to the new stantly and eagerly sue for peace. attempt of the Republicans to increase the beer tax, they will succeed once more.

The next campaign will present McKinley and his party as the adman and leaving the millionaires and simple to a land war. untouched; of taxing consumption of the most necessary articles of land preparations, these musterings the people and letting capital and in all our cities and towns, would property go free.

carry the next Democratic candi- palpable objective points-a Spandate triumphantly into the White ish squadron already hopelessly House.

Respectfully Submitted.

now. There can be no other mean ing in this additional call for volun | till ry of yellow tever and smallteers, bringing the volunteer army pox. up to the enormous total of 200,000 the same meaning is directly expressed in the news published ending war in pressed in the news published ending war in as a mession of the same meaning is directly expressed in the news published ending war in as a mession of the same meaning is directly exbeen used, these long delays in with privilege of extension until June 24th, with privilege of extension until June 24th, with privilege of extension until June 24th, with privilege of extension until June 30th, if ticket is deposited with agent at Naperville on or before June 24th.

MONROE

new "finally and firmly established" war policy to fight land battles in Cuba all summer long!

Now, no one acquainted with the facts of Mr. McKinley's position can fail to give him sincere respect. He has gone into this war with conscientious scruples against it. He is a civilian, untamiliar with military and naval matters. He is surrounded by civilians, all of them originally and strenuously against war. He has a weak Cabinet of civilians. He has a lawyer at the head of the Navy Department, a lumber dealer at the head of the War Department.

All these adverse elements must make it extremely hard for him to form correct military judgments, must add enormously to the burden of his anxieties. It is easy to understand why he has made and is making a kind hearted war.

It may not be kind hearted, but it is certainly necessary to try to tell Mr. McKinley just what the people are saying about his policy.

There is the most striking contrast between his preparations and the other day, made a fine speech his present policy. In preparation for war he and his assistants admirably sustained the traditional American character. They were all vigor, all energy. In the conduct of the war there have been vacillation and languor.

The first announced policy was the famous gigantic Cuban feeding scheme. This was abandoned, readopted, abandoned again, and after many halts and changes a policy of peaceful blockade was substituted for it.

Famine was substituted for feed-

Then the land invasion was announced. It has been reannounced day it is set for to morrow or the day after, or next week at the latest.

Again, there was the case of poor Schley, tied up in Hampton Roads with steam up for nearly a month for the next Presidential election, and Washington promising his

Again, there was the matter of

the Cape Verd fleet. It left St. But he does not control the Vincent on April 29, and everyone Democratic Senators! They will knew that if it came over it would do what they did last year-defeat | make for the nearest neutral port the increase of taxation on the to get coal and news. The obvi-"poor man's beverage." It will ous duty was to spend the ten or be remembered that last year the eleven days which the fleet must Republican Senators of the consume in crossing in first taking Finance Committee unanimously Porto Rico, and second, setting a recommended the beer tax in- trap at Martinique. No move was crease of 44 cents per barrel. made until five day; after Cervera Knowing that only Democrats left. Then Sampson by stretching could prevent the passage of this his orders bombarded Porto Rico. amendment, we saw our honored But his orders were so "kind friend, Senator Gorman, and beg. hearted" that he could not finish his good work. And as nothing had been done to meet the Spanish arrivals at Martinique and give them a suitable welcome, they coaled and began their clever game of dodge without being disturbed. caucus, made a very fine speech | And further, ever since their arriagainst over-taxing the poor man's | val the whole American navy in the West Indies has been busying itself with them and with nothing

> Sixty cats, great and small, giving their undivided attention to four Spanish rats and three Spanish mice!

Finally, there is the policy toward Dewey. When Dewey sailed for Manila it was the obvious duty of the Administration to prepare to back him up. But nothing, absolutely nothing, was done in this direction until May 8-seven days after Dewey had wiped out the Spanish fleet!

And then what was done? Why, languid preparations were made to send a lot of troops seven thousand miles to the Philippine Islands. That is, preparations were made to prolong the war instead of to shorten it. And this in the face of the fact that the quickest and only really effective way to help Dewey was to take Porto Rico, bombard attempt to increase the beer tax | the fortifications of Havana, shell the city itself, and so strike down If our Democratic friends stand | the Spaniards that they would in-

All these matters show how fixed is Mr. McKinley's idea that this war shall be a long war. But all together are not so significant as his resolve to change the war vocates of over-taxing the poor from its natural naval course pure

Who, reading of these martial dream that we were making a war That alone will be sufficient to | in which there were three perfectly captured, Porto Rico and Havana?

More and worse, a belated land war, undertaken in April, but not When Mr. Hilborn, of the in June, would mean the waste of House Committee on Naval Af- thousands of lives. The Spanish fairs, said, "From present indica- army in Cuba might not give much tions I think it is going to be a trouble if attacked by an Amerilong war," he has only expressed can army. But the Spanish army the general opinion at Washington. has Cuban allies. It is aided by That the President is firmly of this | the infantry of slow disease of the opinion was never clearer than tropical camp, by the cavalry of tropical plagues, by the heavy ar-

What is the mystery of this hanmen, strangely required to enlist | dicapping of the navy, this second for not less than two years! And | call for troops before the first has

Thursday morning-the brand | ber of the Spanish Cabinet has just said-"Weakness and poverty are opposed to strength and wealth' and "Spain is in the position of a duellist-bound to defend his honor, * * * although convinced that the insult is almost certain death?"

Who will be benefited by a long war?

First, there are the Republican politicians. It the war can be so prolonged that in the autumn the Spanish campaign and the Republican campaign can be carried on together and confused in the public mind, obviously the Lincolnian maxim about not swapping horses while crossing the stream will come into play. Republican Congressmen, Republican Governors, Republican Senators, will be elected triumphantly; unless-and this point is well worth considering-unless delays and the land invasion produce some incredible blunder, some great popular re-

Second, there are the contractors. "A million a day" is a colossal sum, a colossal temptation. There is no sense in scratching when smashing will end the war. The strategy of common sense is

still simple: 1. Smash the Spanish squadron. 2. Smash Porto Rico and Havana-a little harder day's work than it would have been a month ago before Blanco built the new fortifications, but still hardly more than a day's work,

Then it Blanco does not surrender, if Spain does not yield-then, not a land invasion, not an assault upon tropical diseases, but-

3. Send our triumphant fleet to Cadiz!

Respectfully submitted.

THEATRICAL.

The Grand Opera House will continue to be intensely patriotic next week, merely shifting the scene from "Gettysburg" to the sea, where the famous White Squadron will uphold the Stars and Stripes in style becoming the naval history of the nation This was one of the first and most successful of modern naval melodramas, and its long annual tours are proofs that its popularity has not waned. Just now that the eyes of the world, as well as of the nation, are upon the American navy which has developed from the famous "White Squadrou,"the play is especially timely. It will be presented with a ll the original scenic effets, including a view of the United States fleet under full sail, and other up to date pictures The cast is heaced by Laura Bigger, who starred in "A trip to Chinatown" last season as the beautiful Brazilian girl, Onesta

The war which is so engrossing the public mind has given Pain, the famous inventor of startling spectacles, ideal opportunity to make use of the vast resources at his command, and the news of our great victory at Manila had hardly been confirmed than he at once gave orders creating the most elaborate and colossal exhibit he has ever attempted. This has been called "The Battle of Manila," and it will be seen here on Decoration Day, May 30th, at the Base Ball Park, Washington, D C., at 8.30 P. M. This spectacle is intended to reproduce faithfully with novel realistic effects all the details of that memorable engagement. The scene represents the Bay of Manila in the foreground, with the Fort of Cavite and the arsenal. Over 20 skips in full action pass upon the scene, each a faithful reproduction of the originals engaged in the conflict. With startling ingenuity, the battle is reproduced and the effects of the screeching shells, the firing of cannon and the burning of ships are said to be sensationally startling, and will explain in a more convincing manner than could be had through any other means, the terrors of naval warfare as it really

32d National Encampment G. A. R. Cincinnati, Ohio

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Owing to the great patriotic wave sweeping the country at the present time, great interest will be manifested at this meeting. Solid Vestibuled Trains of elegant coaches, Pullman Sleeping Cars, Observation Cars and splendid Dining Car Service. Three through trains daily from New York, Philadelphia. Baltimore and Washington, and two from Pittsburg.
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Park, Garrett County, Md. Reduced Rates via B, & O, for the Annual Meeting German Baptists | Dunkards |.

Naperville, Ill., May 29th to June 7th The B. & O. Railroad will sell excursion tickets from the points on its lines west of Baltimore, account of the Annual Meeting of German Baptists, (Dunkards), at Naperville, Ill., at the low rate of one fare for the round trip to Chicago, plus \$1.85 to Naperville. Tickets will be sold May 23d, 24th 27th and 28th, good to return until June 24th, Unwarranted Criticism. Boston Weekly Transcript.

We boast of our fairness, but the present time shows how many among us, although wholly ignorant of a subject, quickly form a harsh judgment and rush into print with it. Nothing illustrates this better than the criticism lately passed upon the Hambrug American line, the German steamship company which, several weeks before the war was declared, sold two of its steamers, through an English firm, to the Spanish Campania Transatlantica.

For this the German company is severely taken to task, and some people think they are patriotic in showing a resentment which actually has no basis in tact.

Now what are the facts concerning the Hamburg American line? We have taken pains to ascertain them, and find that this company arriving at the conclusion that this year's passenger business would be unsatisfactory on account of the political situation and also that no great improvement was to be expected for the following year, because many tourists would be likely to postpone their visit to Europe until 1900 resolved to dispose of, if possible, two of its big passenger steamers. These ships were then, at the beginning o April, offered to the United States Government at reasonable prices; the offer was considered and finally declined, our Government officials declaring that the ships were not suitable for our requirements. After that a London firm bid on them, obtained them, it is stated, at a larger figure than we could have had them for, and turned them over to the Spanish line, But even if they had been sold direct to Spanish interests, no blame could attach to the German company. Spain was a world's market at that time as much as the United States, and before a declaration of war it is asking altogether too much of the business corporations of any country that they shall refuse an exceptional bargain, especially after offering us thefirst and best chance, in order to make us a favored nation. Criticism, like charity, should begin at home. Our mentors frown upon the entirely busi nesslike proceeding of a foreign company and have not a word to say in disapprobation of our own manufacturers and merchants who sold great quantities of arms, ammunitions, provisions, etc. direct to the Spanish until the last day before war was declared, and of the American steamship lines that forwarded all this! And what of the American mule trust that doubled prices when the American Government needed

mules? The Hamburg American line has never been patronized by Americans because of any friendship for Germany, but simply for the admirable service it gave to travellers from this country abroad. Any who were dissatisfied with the service have not continued it just to show good will to the line itself or the country under whose protection it operates, and having had our pick of the market before war was declared, it seems to be a dog-in-the-manger position that Spanish interests should be debarred from purchasing what we refused.

The relations of American ports and the American people with the Hamburg American line have always rested upon a purely commercial basis, and that basis has not been in any way aff cted by what has occurred. There has never been a particle of sentiment about it. If we have afforded good terminal facilities, it is because we have found it profitable to do so. It was in the way of business and not a matter of courtesy, and the company has done nothing that should cause it to forfeit the patronage it has enjoyed. It is expecting altogether too much that it should make figancial sacrifices not required by either international law or international comity

The same ignorance of the facts has dictated the statement repeatedly made, that the Hamburg American line has grown rich on the patronage of American passengers. Even if this were true, it does not alter the facts as shown above, but anyone who knows anything of the steamship business is aware that the assertion is ridiculous.

No steamship line grows rich on the satronage of its passenger boats. The fast steamers are built and maintained as an advertisement, and a very expensive one it is. It is fierce competition that creates the fast passenger boats, but the freight steamers, whose names are hardly known to the public at large, and that come and go unheralded, provide the greatest part of the means to maintain the fast passenger service, The great railroads with their limited express trains illustrate the same experience

They are a costly advertisement. The Hamberg American line, as lately shown in the London shipping paper, Fairplay, is one of the greatest steamship companies in the world, with a flee of some seventy ocean steamers, with which over twenty services from Ham. burg to all parts of the world are maintained. The company is thus able to afford an admirable first class passenger service on the north Atlantic.

There is a good deal of business rivalry among the steamship lines and his, no doubt, also accounts to some extent for the utterances published against the Hamburg American Company. The jealousy of competitors is at the bottom of it. Let us be fair!

WHEN annoyed or excited the Prince of Wales winks his left eye rapidly, the Emperor of Austria puffs out his cheeks, the Czar lays his hand flat on the top of his head, and the Sultan of Turkey grasps his throat tightly with his hand.

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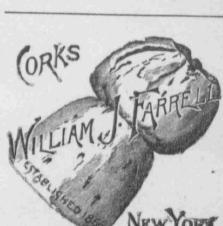
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